

THE
EIGHTEENTH
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
AMERICAN SOCIETY
FOR
COLONIZING THE FREE PEOPLE OF COLOR
OF
THE UNITED STATES.

WITH THE
PROCEEDINGS OF THE ANNUAL MEETING,

JANUARY 19, 1835;

WITH A
GENERAL INDEX

TO THE
ANNUAL REPORTS, AND PROCEEDINGS AT THE ANNUAL
MEETINGS OF THE SOCIETY,

FROM THE FIRST TO THE EIGHTEENTH, BOTH INCLUSIVE.

WASHINGTON:

1835.

NOTICE.

It is requested that all collections, donations, or subscriptions to the American Colonization Society, be transmitted by mail, if no private opportunity offers, to JOSEPH GALES, Sen. Esq., Treasurer of the Society, Washington City; with whom the collecting agents of the Society will also correspond. With the collections in the churches, the Society expects to receive the names of the Clergymen of the several congregations in which they were made.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

AT THEIR

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Eighteenth Annual Meeting of the American Colonization Society was held in the Hall of the House of Representatives on Monday, the 19th of January, at 7 o'clock P. M., in the presence of numerous visitors.

At the commencement of the meeting, the Hon. CHARLES FENTON MERCER, one of the Vice Presidents of the Society, took the Chair, but afterwards yielded it to the Hon. HENRY CLAY, a senior Vice President.

The meeting was opened by prayer from the Rev. Dr. LAURIE.

The Rev. R. R. GURLEY, Secretary of the Society, read the names of the following gentlemen, as Delegates from Auxiliary Societies:

From the State Society of New Hampshire, Hon. Samuel Bell.

From the Vermont State Society, Hon. Heman Allen, Hon. Benjamin Swift, Hon. William Slade.

From the Massachusetts State Society, Hon. Edward Everett, Hon. Stephen C. Phillips, Hon. Isaac C. Bates, B. B. Thatcher.

From the Hartford (Conn.) Colonization Society, Henry Hudson.

From the New York City Society, David M. Reese, M. D., Colonel William Stone, George Douglas, D. Davenport, Rev. Cyrus Mason.

From the Newark (N. J.) Colonization Society, Hon. Theodore Frelinghuysen.

From the Young Men's Colonization Society of Pennsylvania, Rev. John Breckenridge, Rev. G. W. Bethune, John Bell, M. D., Rev. Robert Baird, Elliott Cresson, Rev. W. A. McDowell, D. D., Hon. Joseph R. Ingersoll, Hon. Harmar Denny, and Hon. T. M. T. McKennan.

From the Wilmington (Del.) Colonization Society, Hon. Arnold Naudain.

From the Ohio State Colonization Society, Hon. Thomas Ewing, Hon. Thomas Morris, Hon. Robert T. Lytle, Hon. Thomas Corwin, and Hon. E. Whittlesey.

From the Virginia Colonization Society, Chief Justice Marshall, Hon. John Tyler, Hon. William S. Archer.

From the Kentucky State Colonization Society, Hon. Henry Clay, Hon. Robert P. Letcher, Hon. James Love, Hon. Thomas A. Marshall, Hon. Thomas Chilton.

From the Indiana Colonization Society, Hon. William Hendricks, Hon. John Tipton.

From the Washington City Colonization Society, Matthew St. Clair Clarke, Dr. Thomas P. Jones, William Hewitt, Seth J. Todd, Josiah F. Polk.

From the Alexandria Colonization Society, Rev. S. Cornelius, William Gregory, and Hugh C. Smith.

The Rev. William M. Atkinson, George H. Burwell, of Virginia, and several other life members, attended.

The Secretary read extracts from the Annual Report, and the consideration of the Report was, on motion, postponed.

GEORGE W. P. CUSTIS, Esq., of the District of Columbia, offered the following resolutions:

Resolved, unanimously, That, in deepest sympathy with the whole American People, and the friends of Virtue and Liberty throughout the world, the American Colonization Society mourns the loss of its lamented Vice President, General DE LAFAYETTE.

Resolved, unanimously, That the Secretary be requested to address, in behalf of this Society, a letter of condolence to the family of the late General DE LAFAYETTE, expressing the deep sympathy felt by the Society in the irreparable bereavement that family has sustained.

Resolved, unanimously, That GEORGE WASHINGTON LAFAYETTE, Esq. be, and he is hereby, elected a Vice President of the American Colonization Society.

In sustaining the preceding resolutions, Mr. CUSTIS gave a brief but eloquent sketch of the life of General Lafayette, tracing out his illustrious and eventful career of sacrifice and devotion to the cause of Liberty. He described him as a youthful volunteer, forsaking the luxuries of the French Court, landing upon our shores, and received to the bosom of the American Chief, who promised to be to him a guide and protector, while Lafayette, disclaiming rank or emolument, proffered to serve in the armies of Liberty for Liberty's sake.

We saw him fighting the battles of American freedom at the Brandywine and on the plains of Monmouth. Returning to his own country, he is received as the Bayard of his age, without fear and without reproach. His influence becomes immense, and he nobly exerts it in the cause of American Liberty. Cheered by the success of his mission, he reassumes his rank in our armies, to fight our battles. Intrusted with his important command, he bore himself well amid the arduous trials of the campaign of 1781.

Just before the close of the war, when the Count de Grasse arrived in our waters, and the Marquis de St. Simon landed with 3,000 veteran troops, and it was proposed to General Lafayette to rush upon the enemy in his last retreat, the tempting offer was declined; "for," said the youthful general, "I could not, I dare not, attempt to pluck a single leaf from the laurel which is soon to encircle the brow of the beloved commander-in-chief," then pressing on, by forced marches, to the consummation of his long and mighty labors, and the virtual termination of the contest; and again, if success had ever been certain in the proposed attack, it must be attended by a great effusion of human blood.

The speaker briefly noticed the subsequent conduct of Lafayette in his own country, up to the time of his arrival as "the Nation's Guest" upon our shores.

It is impossible, in this brief abstract, to do justice to his description of the progress of this beloved friend to our country and mankind through the United States. Of his visit to Mount Vernon, he said:

"Let us attend the last of the generals, in his pious pilgrimage to the tomb of Mount Vernon."

"It was in the decline of the year, and, as if the very elements combined to favor this good man's triumph, the season was genial, the air soft

and balmy, while the sun shed his mild and benignant radiance amid the decay of nature.

"The aged oaks that grow around the sepulchre, touched by the mellowed lustre of autumn, seemed emblematical of the autumnal honors of Lafayette, while ever and anon a leaf, 'a sere and yellow leaf,' would fall to the ground, marking the progress of time, and the fall of man: for the hero, when his race of glory is run; the benefactor of mankind, when he has fulfilled the charities of his mission on earth, they too must decline into the 'sere and yellow leaf,' and fall to the ground, only to be renewed by the spring time of eternal life.

"A solemn silence reigned, save when broken by the deep and measured thunders of artillery, as they pealed from the neighboring fortress, awakening the echoes, and by the sweetly plaintive strains of music, wafted along the broad expanse of Potomac's glossy wave. And many were gathered around to behold the pious spectacle that belongs to history, but none approached; no, not one ventured to intrude upon the sacred privacy of the scene.

"The old man waved his hand, the doors were opened, and the last of the generals of the army of Independence descended to the cold and lonely precincts of the tomb. For a time he appeared to be wholly absorbed in the immensity of his reflections; and ah, sir, while bending over the remains of his hero, his friend, and a country's preserver, how must the associations of the heroic time, the events of the days of trial, have crowded in quick succession on the retina of memory. At length, summoning his energies to their last great effort, he kneeled, and pressing his lips to the leaden sarcophagus, containing the ashes of the chief, the tomb of the *Pater Patrie* received from the most venerable of its pilgrims its proudest homage, in the generous, the fervent, the filial tear of Lafayette."

After alluding briefly to the disinterested efforts of this veteran friend of Liberty, during the late revolution in France, Mr. Custis closed his tribute to this great and virtuous man in the following words:

"Lafayette, on finding that the times were 'out of joint,' resigned his command of the *Garde Nationale*, and retired to his chateau of La Grange; and France will require another Three Days, ere she enjoy the substance of Liberty, after the enormous sacrifices she hath made for its shadow.

"It was while a member of the popular branch of the National Legislature, an object of intense interest to the friends of freedom in the old world, and watching with eagle eye the course of events, that the days of Lafayette were numbered on earth. With the courage of a soldier, and the calmness of a sage, he met the dread summons that none may refuse; and full of years and honors, in peace with himself and with all mankind, the aged apostle of Liberty in two hemispheres closed his well spent life.

"And shall he rest in the land which, forgetful of his virtues, and abandoning his principles, is unworthy of his ashes? Surely, where Liberty dwells, there, there alone, should be the sepulchre of her apostles! Let the flag of the Brandywine again float on the breezes of *la belle France*, claiming for America the remains of the last of the generals of her army of Independence, and bearing them to the hallowed heights of Mount Vernon, there to repose by the side of the Chief, that, united as they were in life, so should they be in death—the master of Liberty and his great disciple.

"My tale is told. Peace to the ashes of Lafayette; and may 'the peace that passeth all understanding' shed its divine influence upon the good and gallant soul now awaiting its reward in higher and better worlds.

"And when America, in some long distant day, proud of the fame and memory of the patriots, warriors, and statesmen, who achieved her inde-

pendence, and founded her empire, shall bid them 'live forever' in marble memorials, to adorn the Legislative Palace, in lofty niche, in the Temple of National Gratitude, will appear the statue of the Gallic Hero, our country's early friend and benefactor; while on the brazen tablets, erected to perpetuate the lives and actions of our great and renowned, brightly will be inscribed the name, the virtues, and the services of LAFAYETTE."

The orator closed his address amid general applause, and the resolutions were unanimously adopted.

The Hon. SAMUEL L. SOUTHARD, of New Jersey, offered the following resolutions:

Resolved, That this Society highly approve of the course adopted by the Board of Managers for the past year, for reducing the outstanding debts of this institution, and recommend a continuance of a like policy, until the whole be discharged.

Resolved, That, notwithstanding the subject has repeatedly been urged on the Agent by the Board of Managers, agricultural pursuits have hitherto been too little attended to in the Colony, and that no further time ought to be lost in introducing such working animals as are best suited to a tropical climate, in order to bring into use the plough, harrow, and cart, without which farming cannot be successfully carried on. And that women and children may, in future, be usefully employed, it is proper that wheels, cards, and looms, should also be sent to the Colony.

Resolved, That the exploration of the interior of Africa, contemplated by the Board of Managers, promises great advantages to the Colony of Liberia, as, from the late despatches from thence, it appears that Millsburg, its most easterly settlement, is found to be very salubrious, and it is believed that the interior portions of the country will, hereafter, be the most desirable situation for such emigrants as intend to devote themselves to the cultivation of the soil.

In support of the foregoing resolutions, Mr. SOUTHARD addressed the Society in a short, but highly eloquent speech. He commended the Board of Managers for resolving to pay off the debt which the too zealous efforts of the Society had heretofore incurred; and he had no doubt that, by sending to the Colony a less number of emigrants than heretofore, for a year or two, the Board would be enabled, not only to discharge the debt of the institution, but to make such improvements at Liberia as will make it a most desirable asylum for such of our free colored population as may, from time to time, desire to enjoy the blessings of freedom.

In reference to the second resolution which Mr. S. proposed, every farmer in the country would see the propriety of adopting it. All know that little progress can be made in cultivating the earth without suitable working animals, ploughs, harrows, and other implements of husbandry; yet, strange to say, it appears that the emigrants have hitherto been so intent on traffic, in order to raise a little ready gain, that nothing deserving the name of agriculture has been attended to, having extended their views no further to this great object than by raising small crops of vegetables by means of the hoe and spade. Should this resolution be adopted, and fully carried into effect, we shall no longer hear of the ruinous policy of spending thousands of dollars here in the purchase of provisions to support the emigrants at Liberia. With well directed industry, no doubt can be entertained that the inhabitants will not only raise sufficient food hereafter for their own support, but a surplus for sale to others.

This, said Mr. S., will more especially be the case, should the plan of exploring the interior country, contemplated in the last resolution, be successfully carried into effect. It is well known that the seaboard of all our Southern States is more or less low, swampy, and insalubrious; and the seacoast of Africa is still more so. But, as the western portions of our Southern country are remarkably healthy, so, it is said, is the interior of Africa; and, like our Southern States, well adapted to agricultural pursuits. It will, in future, therefore, no doubt, be found good

policy to place such emigrants as are fittest to cultivate the soil (certainly the best employment for most of them) in the interior country, where, enjoying good health, they will soon convert the unprofitable forests into fruitful and well cultivated farms, sufficient to supply not only their own wants, but all the wants of the Colony, and, ere long, have a spare surplus for exportation.

Mr. S. then adverted to the incipient stages of the Colony, when it had been necessary to condense its population in order to defend it from attacks, as well from the natives of the country as from pirates engaged in the slave trade; and to the trials through which the Society had passed in bringing the Colony to the present point in its progress. But instead of viewing these as causes of regret, he rather rejoiced at the review; considering them as the salutary discipline of Providence, acting under that general law, by which those things that were to be great and useful seemed destined first to pass through struggles and difficulty. The fostering care of Government, he said, never had caused any colonies to prosper. They had advanced by their own energies, called up in combating the obstacles around them; as an illustration of which, he adverted to the barrenness of New England, and the history of the Puritan emigrants. The Society, having trampled over difficulties abroad, was now assailed by a new difficulty at home, in the opposition of many misguided men; but he viewed this too without regret, believing that, like the others, it would only conduce to elicit the energies, and combine the efforts of the friends of the colonization cause. He spoke in strong terms of the good intentions and determined purpose of the great body of the people at the North, in relation to slavery. They condemned the system, he said, *but would pay a sacred regard to the vested rights of the citizens, and would preserve the constitution from violation in the protection it extended to the possessions and the domestic peace of the people of the South*; and he had no sooner uttered the sentiment than he was interrupted by a long burst of spontaneous applause. Towards the close of his remarks, Mr. S. referred, in a strain of deep feeling and impassioned eloquence, to the character of the late Mr. Finley, who was his neighbor and friend, the friend of Africa, and the originator of the Society, to whose devoted zeal he paid a beautiful and merited eulogium; and adverted to the examination, which, as Secretary of the Navy, it had been his duty to give to the plan and purposes of this Society; and bore his most unequivocal testimony in favor of its claims upon the Government for co-operation in the establishment of an agency on the African coast; and concluded by pressing the necessity of cherishing the interests of agriculture in the Colony, and spreading its settlements abroad, as the only means of effectually defeating the designs of those nefarious men who haunted the coast for human prey.

Mr. SOUTHARD'S resolutions were unanimously adopted.

B. B. THATCHER, Esq., of Boston, offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the difficulties which have thus far attended the proceedings of this institution furnish no reasonable ground of distrust, or discouragement, in regard either to the soundness of its principles, or the final and total success of its scheme.

Mr. THATCHER remarked, that some of the suggestions he had intended to offer in reference to this resolution had been anticipated by the gentleman from New Jersey, [Mr. Southard,] but in such a manner (he need not say) as to leave neither necessity of repetition nor occasion of regret. The *spirit* of that gentleman's comment on the difficulties of the Society, however, he should gladly assume, as far as he was able, for he deemed it worthy of all admiration. Such difficulties were no new thing in the history of any institution. Our own was, and

is, in its very nature, liable to them in a peculiar degree, and liable to many which must be peculiar to itself. The Colony, the principal seat of the Society's operations, is at a great distance from the Society itself. The materials of which it consisted, the mode of its management, the country, the climate, every thing relating to its location and thrift, was wholly experimental. The whole scheme was an experiment. It had no precedent; it has no parallel. Its managers, who, of course, were only *men*, could only avail themselves, like other men, and other managers, of the results of experience, and of the wisdom which experience alone could give; and this experience must be their own. It could not be borrowed from analogous institutions, for none such existed. The light of other days was no light for them, for their enterprise was substantially the first the world had seen of the series. Not, indeed, that colonization was a new thing. Every body knows better than that. Every body knows that colonies have been the purveyors and the conveyors of the arts, sciences, and religion of nations; that they have communicated it from clime to clime, and transmitted it from age to age; that the history of colonization, in a word, has been, from first to last, the history of civilization; that *we* are the children of colonists; that this vast and flourishing empire, stretching itself, as it does, from shore to shore, till it promises to cover the continent as the waters cover the sea—*this* was but the result of the last great exemplification of the same great scheme. No! not the last. The last was our own. It was the renewal on the African shore, in 1820, of the splendid drama acted on the "stern and rock-bound coast" *two centuries* before. Still, however, it remains true, that, to all personal, practical, economical purposes, the managers of this institution could be guided only by their own experience in the strictest sense. The old principle of colonization itself, its practicability, its applicability to all sorts of circumstances heretofore, were the only data they could start with. The circumstances themselves of the new application, and the practicability, and the whole policy of that application, constituted an experiment which trial and time alone could determine.

Mr. T. here made some remarks on the *extent* of the operations of this Society, the necessary extent, as an intrinsic occasion of some embarrassment to which few others were exposed. They included an organization at home and abroad, each sufficient for one Society; they included the selection and qualification of emigrants, as well as their removal and establishment on the other side; the maintenance of a system of the means of transportation; the care of all the institutions of the Colony, and the constant provision of new ones; the supervision of its government; the erection of public buildings; the opening of roads into the interior; the purchase of new territory; the commerce of the coast; the care of the recaptured Africans; and the whole routine of negotiation with the natives.

That there had been faults, however, in the management of affairs. Mr. T. said he should not pretend to deny; it was only admitting, after all, that the institution was conducted by the instrumentality of men. The chief fault was one, he thought, which even their enemies, keen as they were, had not pointed out; nay, it was the reverse of what had been charged against them. They had been accused at the North of "doing too little." He would not stay to examine the grace with which this objection is advanced by those who do nothing themselves, at the best, to help us; and perhaps exert every nerve, on the other hand, to defeat our schemes, and destroy the confidence of the public. These people seem to fancy that the Society has an inherent inexhaustibility, like the water of a beleagured city, *within the walls*; rendering it independent (as he could wish it were) of the patronage or the praise of a certain part of the community. But whatever the consistency between the argument and the action of our foes, the allegation is not true. The reverse is so. Our

great fault has been the doing and attempting *too much*. It was, to be sure, a natural error. The evils of a forced growth of the Colony, and what was, in fact, a forced growth, could only be learned by experience; it depended, in some degree, on the character of the materials, and the potential competency of the management, both which must be tried. It was almost a laudable error. It arose from an anxiety to extend the very ends of the institution, all that was good in it, by gratifying as many as possible of the applicants for its charity, whether bond or free, and as fast as possible, of course. Still, it was an error which would bear better to be excused than to be repeated. Fortunately, it had been discovered in due time, and corrected; and the excellent conduct of affairs for the last year is an earnest that nothing further need be feared upon this score. It was now understood, it could not be understood too well, it should never be forgotten, that the true policy of the Society consists not in the *increase*, but in the *prosperity* of its settlements; not in the transportation of emigrants to the Colony, but in the preparation of the Colony for emigrants; not in how much is done, or how fast it is done, but in *how* it is done; not in the haste or the height of the edifice, but in its strength. There must be, above all things, comfort in the condition, and capacity in the character, of those who went there. There must be agriculture, order, education, morality, religion; there must be hospitals, roads, schools, colleges, churches; establish these, and the rest "shall be added unto you." There will be men enough, you may be sure; intelligent men will always go where their interest leads. And these things will make them and keep them *men* indeed, freemen, citizens, Christians. These are the elements of success and of greatness in a nation; it is not the size of your colony, nor its growth; it never was the size or growth of any colony, or of any country. No sir! It is not these which "constitute a State." It is not its numbers, nor the extent of its territory; it is not the amount of its exports and imports; it is not its mines, nor the might of its armies, nor its navies, that sweep the seas; it is not its physical resources of any kind, but its *men*—

—"High minded men,
That know their rights, and knowing, dare maintain:
These constitute a State."

How much, said Mr. T., it may have been (in this view of the matter) for the best interests of the Society and the Colony, that a strong opposition to both—he might say, perhaps, a rancorous prejudice—had been fostered in some parts of the country, he need not undertake to show. He believed, however, the conviction would one day be established, that the same overruling Providence which had heretofore so signally crowned our operations with its favor, had, in this respect, and especially as regards the colored people of the North, *protected* us from what, under other circumstances, might have been a fatal source of disaster. If those people, without reference to the domestic diversity between their circumstances and those of their brethren farther South, had been as eager as the latter have been for colonization, and crowded into it in the same proportion, it might well be doubted if the settlements would now have been in existence. The multitude of the invasion would have utterly borne them down—the mere multitude—independently of any difference of character, and independently of the fact that the difference of *climate* is alone a sufficient reason, in the present stage of the business, why *no colored man from New England should be suffered to go out*, were he ever so anxious to go. The first result of such emigration, to any considerable extent, would have been inevitably to ruin the reputation of the Colony; and the second, to ruin the Colony itself. He did not know how many other of what have been called the difficulties of the Society would turn out to be the very means of its preservation. This, certainly, would seem to be *one*.

What he had termed the true policy of the Society would appear more clearly from a consideration of its original design, and its great purpose at all times. No small injury had sprung from the misapprehension of both. Hence the imputation of every sort of fanatical and fantastical schemes, which he would not detail. Hence the odium of these schemes, with all their several sins on their heads. Hence the additional odium of inconsistency in the pursuit of so many; and of inefficiency, or insufficiency at any rate, in the pursuit of all. Hence the confusion of the Society's true scheme with the arguments in favor of it; and the confusion of its immediate object with its ultimate results. These results were *ultimate*. They were potential rather than actual, perhaps problematical, at least in some degree; at the best, only matter of argument, and also of secondary (though not of trivial) importance. Not so with the immediate object or the original design. This was perfectly simple, and as clear as daylight. Nobody could misunderstand it. It was practicable; nobody disputed it. It was unobjectionable; nobody found fault with it; not even that part of the public who oppose us most bitterly, merely because they have imagined designs for us, not perhaps without a needless color of reason heretofore furnished by us, but which nevertheless do not belong to us. It was sufficient, too, as much as any one institution could or should sustain. And what was it? Was it the abolition of slavery in the United States? Was it the perpetuation of that system, or the prolongation of it? For we had been accused on either side, with a rival bitterness, of both. Far from it. Was it the abolition of the slave trade, or the civilization of the Africans, or the promotion of scientific, or commercial, or national purposes of any sort? Or was it the removal of the whole colored population of this country, or of the whole of the free part of it, or of any particular portion of it? By no means. What then? Why, it was *colonization*. It was the colonization of free colored people, (including, of course, slaves made free for the purpose) of such people, willing and anxious to go, at liberty to go, qualified to go, and unable to go to advantage without charitable aid. It was the establishment of a colony or colonies of such people. It was no question of how many of them, or how many such colonies, or how large. The more the better, if they were good; and the larger the better, and the sooner the better. But that is no matter of ours; we are to *colonize*, and to do it well, and to do nothing else—as we can do nothing else, if we do this well; and if we do it well, the other results, which we have any right to anticipate, will follow as of course. If the practicability of the scheme, and the desirableness of it, be shown, that, with the incidental, individual good accomplished by the Society as a benevolent institution in the very act, is strictly the consummation of our design. The results of that consummation are another affair.

How far colonization itself may be carried on, or how fast, by other agents, is another affair too. Every State may carry it on, if it chooses, as well as Maryland. The auxiliaries, like the Pennsylvanian, may have new colonies. New societies, like our own, subordinate or co-ordinate, may arise. The Government of the Union may take the matter in hand. The colored people themselves doubtless will do so, at all events, sooner or later. But all this is speculation. Our object is attained in the proof of the practicability and the policy of the scheme, involving, of course, the benefit of those persons with whom the experiment has been tried.

Undoubtedly, also, it involves other benefits, and those of great moment. These, however, the abolition of the slave trade; the civilization and evangelization of Africa; the care of the re-captured Africans; the promotion of commercial purposes; and especially the benefit conferred upon the slaves at home, were not the Society's design, but the consequence of its consummation. The more it was consummated, the more would all these results be extended. The interest of the colony itself was the first thing; that of the free colored people at large was the second;

the rest were supplementary and secondary. He should be willing to sustain the Society *for any one of them alone*, but they should not be confounded with the simple, intelligible, practicable, unobjectionable business of colonization.

Mr. T. here adduced a few striking facts going to show the effect of the colonial system abroad, and also its bearing upon that portion of the slaveholders at home, who are desirous of emancipating, whenever their slaves can be, as they think, properly taken care of. He adverted also to the *rationale* of the Society's design, in regard to the free. It amounted to a great experiment for their benefit, and for the benefit of the whole race. Its effect, if it succeeded, would be to place them on a level with the white man, as far as possible; of course, including the bestowal of the privileges of locomotion and location, of employment and emolument, of a character, a country, a government, and a home of *their own*. What we have to do, then, concluded Mr. T., is to prosecute our old and only plan, and that alone. We have no time, especially, to embroil ourselves in a controversy at home, which can do no good to any body, and may do great harm to all. If we have enemies who can find it in their hearts to oppose the plan I speak of, and the vigorous prosecution of it, let them oppose it, let them talk on, and write on, if they please; and let us *work on*. Sir, we can answer them as we have answered them before, again and again. We can give liberty to the captive, and light to the blind. We can advocate, and seal with our action, the holy bond of the union of the States. We can relieve the afflictions of thousands of our countrymen, who enjoy the name of freedom, only. We can reduce the slave trade. We can carry the glad tidings of the Gospel of God into pagan lands. We can rear, sir, on the shores of the fair clime of the palm tree, a new republic, that, ages hence, may still be, as ours has been and shall have been, the asylum of liberty and the refuge of the oppressed of every nation. Let us work on. We shall answer them, sir, as the lighthouse in the storm makes reply to the winds that howl around its head, and the waves that dash upon its base, towering higher and higher as the seas rise; shining brighter and brighter as the night grows thick; and pouring, and pouring, fresh floods of light on them all. In God's name, LET US WORK ON.

The Rev. CYRUS MASON, of New York, proposed the following resolution:

Resolved, That the colonization of our free people of color on the coast of Africa deserves the patronage of American philanthropists, as the only hopeful method of elevating their character, while it promises to confer the greatest blessings on the African race.

He took this ground, that facts had demonstrated that the African race, if kept in communities by themselves, were capable of the highest degree of civilization, moral elevation, and social improvement; while, on the other hand, all attempts to elevate them, while in a country where their race was in slavery, had proved utter failures. He adverted, in support of his assertion, to experience in Santa Cruz, the Carolinas, and Virginia, and even in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and New York. He stated some melancholy facts as to the condition of the free blacks in the lanes and alleys of the city of New York.

He next remarked that the present attempt to colonize these people had been commenced, and was in progress, under the most favorable auspices. He adverted to the enlightened philanthropy of those who conducted the experiment, and thanked, for a portion of this light, the indefatigable exertions of the enemies of the cause to bring to view every failure in providence or consistency. They had undertaken, and diligently performed, all the thankless, and, he had almost said, all the dirty work which the cause could require to be done for its warning and instruction. Mr. M. pronounced a beautiful compliment on the efforts of the ladies of New

York and Philadelphia, whose exertions had done so much to carry into the Colony the blessings of Christian education, and of the healing art; and he then spoke with warmth of the Society's claims on Christian patronage, and of the fact of its having roused the exertions of the friends of religion to send the Gospel to benighted Africa, which led him to pronounce a merited eulogy on the late missionary expeditions. He concluded by responding to the assurances given to the South, in the speech of Mr. Southard, touching the safety of their domestic institutions, and the sanctity of those safeguards which the constitution extended over them. The furious excitement against this Society at the North was confined to a few zealous, but misguided and fanatical men, whose numerous publications (and eleven thousand dollars had been paid at the counting-house of a single individual for a portion of those publications) did not speak the true sentiments of the people of the Northern States. He concluded by inviting to the design of the Society, as to a common ground, the united efforts of all philanthropists in every section of the Union.

Mr. MASON's resolution was unanimously adopted.

Dr. REESE offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That, in the opinion of this meeting, the exclusion of ardent spirits from the commerce of our colony is essential to its prosperity and permanence; and we rejoice in the prospect of obtaining this result, with the consent of the colonists, through the successful efficiency of the Liberia Temperance Society.

In support of his resolution, Dr. REESE said:

It was my intention, Mr. Chairman, to have accompanied this resolution by offering to the meeting several considerations, which, in my estimation, impart to the subject a very high degree of importance; but, at this late hour, I know too well what is becoming under such circumstances, to venture upon any protracted remarks, especially when an honorable gentleman [Mr. Frelinghuysen] is expected to follow, from whom the audience is by this time impatient to hear. I shall, therefore, detain the meeting but five minutes upon this resolution.

It proposes a novel and untried experiment in legislation, by the exclusion of ardent spirits from the commerce of the Colony of Liberia, and expresses the confidence of this meeting in the intelligence and virtue of the colonists, that, by their own consent, this desirable object may be attained; and at the same time calls upon us to rejoice in the success of the Liberia Temperance Society, which already enrols among its members, in the several settlements, a *greater proportion* of the population than can be found in any part of our own country.

Sir, this resolution not only commends itself to every enlightened understanding, but, in view of the aspect of our own country, it makes a resistless appeal to the heart. Who can contemplate the unutterable mischiefs to our civil, social, intellectual, and moral relations, which are distinctly and legitimately to be traced to the traffic in ardent spirits, and under which this whole land is still groaning, without deep emotion? And who can estimate the blessings, the individual, domestic, and public blessings, which had been ours, as a nation, if this foul destroyer, ardent spirits, had been excluded from our commerce, in the early history of the colonies at Plymouth and Jamestown, and if a similar exclusion had been perpetuated until now? Are we not then imperiously called upon, by every consideration of high and holy responsibility, in the benevolent project of regenerating the continent of Africa, to take early and efficient measures to preserve them from the withering influence of such a traffic, which, as our own bitter experience has demonstrated, is an infinitely greater public and private calamity than either war, pestilence, or famine? Sir, I am free to declare, that better had we leave the millions of Africa's sable population in the darkness of Mahometan superstition, and the guilt of Pagan idolatry, than, along with the lights of civilization and Christianity, that we

should send them an army of rum-sellers, whose accursed traffic would poison every spring and wither every flower, and blast the hopes which genius, philanthropy, or religion itself, may indulge.

I am aware that we have been denounced, in no measured terms of bitterness and malignity, because, in laying the foundations of the Colony, this exclusion of ardent spirits was not then incorporated in the government of the colonists; and some of our quondam friends have alleged this as a pretext for their apostacy to the cause, and their adhesion to our enemies. But let it be recollected, sir, that, when our Colony was founded, the lights of the temperance reformation had not dawned upon our hemisphere, nor irradiated our world. But, thank Heaven, it is not yet too late; the beams of our sun of temperance have reached the inhabitants of our Colony, and, a reformation among them having commenced, we trust that the success of this resolution shall redeem and disenthral the colonists from the traffic which has already commenced among them, and that Liberia is yet destined to become an asylum for temperance, where a nation, free from the physical and moral pollutions of ardent spirits, shall be raised up as a beacon-light for mankind to gaze upon—a spectacle for an admiring world.

I therefore submit the resolution, which I am sure will find a response in every heart in this meeting, not dead to the impulses of humanity, and I affectionately commend it to the speedy and efficient action of the Board of Managers.

The resolution being agreed to,

On motion of Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, the Society adjourned to meet at 7 o'clock to-morrow evening, at the Rev. Mr. Post's Church.

TUESDAY, January 20.

The Society met, pursuant to adjournment.

The Hon. CHARLES FENTON MERCER took the Chair.

Mr. GURLEY offered the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Society be presented to such Clergymen and Churches as have, during the year past, taken up collections for its cause, and that they be invited to consider annually its claims, and contribute to its funds, on or about the Fourth of July.

Resolved, That this Society is deeply indebted to the citizens of New York for the prompt and liberal manner in which they have recently and repeatedly contributed in aid of its cause.

Resolved, That this meeting highly appreciates the zeal and efforts of the Young Men's Colonization Society of Pennsylvania, in the cause of this institution.

Mr. GURLEY said, that he had looked forward during the whole past year with the deepest anxiety to the present meeting of the Society, as one which was likely to exert a most decisive influence on its future history. He considered it, in fact, as the very crisis of the colonization cause. He adverted to the season of trial through which they had passed, but expressed his confident hope that now a brighter era was opening upon them. But, to render this expectation any thing but delusive, it was indispensable that entire *union* should be preserved between the North and the South, in their future course of action in relation to the great design of African colonization; and that union must rest on *principle*. All true and permanent union must have principle for its foundation. The grand principle on which all parts of the country could alone unite in respect to the colonization cause, was, that its design was, in its character and aims, exclusively benevolent, and as such utterly estranged from all selfish or sectional views of every kind. In his opinion, it was impossible, in the nature of things, and against all experience of human nature and human affairs, that three or four different, distinct, and independent institutions,

all proposing the same object, should, for any length of time, work harmoniously together. And should the whole Northern interest unite itself on any combination distinct from this Society, all their sympathies and co-operation would soon be withdrawn from it. The true policy of the Society was, therefore, to keep the North *with* it, and not to alienate its feelings or purposes from the plans and interests of the Society.

Mr. G. spoke in terms of high commendation of the energy and liberality which had been manifested, especially by the merchants of New York, in aiding the funds of the Society when it was in straits; and also of the exertions of the Young Men's Society of Philadelphia, in fitting out a new expedition for Bassa Cove. He exhorted to union, and predicted the highest degree of success and prosperity, on that ground but on that alone.

The resolutions were successively put, and adopted, without a dissenting voice.

Colonel STONE, of New York, offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That the crisis demands immediate and vigorous measures to extend the influence and increase the funds of this institution; and that the Board of Managers be requested, at the earliest practicable period, to establish permanent agencies in every section of the country.

Colonel S. observed, that, as one of the delegates representing the sentiments of the friends of colonization at the North, it was his duty to state that, in their opinion, unless a more vigorous system of action should be adopted and pursued, the design of the Society might as well be abandoned. All that was needed to insure an amount of patronage beyond the most sanguine expectations of the warmest friends of the Society was, to extend its operations to a scale commensurate with the extent of our country, and the grandeur and importance of the great purpose in view. What was most needed was, an enlarged and efficient system of agencies. Here was the point where the Society had failed. It was requisite that these should be established forthwith; one general superintending agency for the whole country, to be confided to the hands of a man of the highest standing, and most commanding ability and influence; and then, that the subordinate agencies should be greatly multiplied and extended, while the character and attainments of the agents were at the same time raised. With such a system, there would be no difficulty in raising \$25,000 in the first year, and as little in doubling it the year following, and doubling it again in years succeeding. But the thing must be taken hold of with resolution and vigor, and prosecuted in a manner very different from what had heretofore been done. And, by taking this course, no doubt need be entertained of speedy and ample success. We must, in one respect, take the opponents of the Colonization Society for our example; that is, we must in some degree imitate their active spirit. Is it not a burning shame, asked Col. S., that a single individual, in the city of New York, should have been disbursing, during four or five months of the past season, more money, in every month, in aid of our opponents, than has found its way into our treasury during the whole year, from every part of the Union, excepting only the cities of New York and Philadelphia? Yet, humiliating to the true friend of the colored man as the confession is, such is the fact. Yes, sir; more than ten thousand dollars per month, for several successive months, have been expended by a single individual, in disseminating, by agents, and countless publications, the pernicious doctrines of the Immediate Abolitionists; and, at one time, that same individual, a very excellent but misjudging man, is understood to have had no less than six agents employed in the city of New York alone. As to the remark of the worthy Secretary on the necessity of union and harmonious co-operation, if it had any allusion to the auxiliary societies which had been formed in New York and Philadelphia, he could assure that gentleman that those associations had had their origin solely and purely

in the love of the cause, and in a desire to aid, not to injure or supersede, the parent institution. When the resolution of the Board, to suspend further colonizing until the debt of the Society should have been discharged, was proclaimed, it fell on the public mind like a shower of ice-water. People would not give to pay an old debt, while nothing of action or progress was placed before their view to excite them. Unless the friends of the design could point to some vessels sailing, or expected to sail, with new emigrants, it was vain to expect contributors. The auxiliaries had agreed to pay what was equivalent to 50 per cent. of all their own collections into the treasury of the Parent Society. Col. S. concluded by expressing his conviction that much, if not all, of the jealous feeling which marred the harmony between the North and the South was owing to a want of more frequent personal intercourse, and a freer interchange of opinion between them. A whiskered gentleman would appear in some of the northern cities, or watering places, swinging his cane, and boasting how he knocked his "niggers" about at home; and the people of the North viewed him as a specimen of the Southern slaveholders, while very likely the fellow did not own a slave on earth, and had come to the springs on borrowed money. So it might happen that a Southern lady was taken in by a shrewd lank trader from New England, and when he was gone the good woman might find she had purchased wooden nutmegs, or the sportsman a horn gun-flint; and they would at once set him down, with equal truth as in the former case, as a true sample of the full-blooded Yankee. It was time the citizens of the same happy country knew each other better.

It had been his intention, Col. S. added, last evening, to have made a few remarks in reply to a gentleman who expressed some apprehensions in regard to the conduct of the Immediate Abolitionists—by some people denounced, and perhaps justly, as "fanatics;" but that gentleman is not now present, and he would forbear. He would take this occasion, however, to assure the gentlemen of the South that they have little to fear from that source. The great mass of the people at the North are sound upon this subject. They are all opposed to slavery in principle, and are anxious to be rid of it. But the Immediate Abolitionists, though, for the most part, very good but misguided citizens, are, comparatively speaking, but a handful. At least eighteen-twentieths of the people are opposed to their disorganizing principles; and our Southern brethren may rely upon it that the people of the North will not allow of any interference with the rights of property, or with the principles of compromise upon which the Constitution was formed. This fact had been most amply proved by the occurrences of the past season. Some of those occurrences were painful, and could not be approved by any friend of the Constitution and the laws. But they nevertheless attested the fact.

Rev. Mr. MASON, of New York, supported Colonel Stone's resolution in a short speech, in which he confirmed the view taken by his colleague [Col. Stone] of the necessity and advantage of establishing a general agency, to be placed in the hands of a man of the first order of intellect and moral standing, who should be free from all other official ties, and who might, once in every year, make a circuit of the Union, pass into all the States, and supervise the great interests of the cause.

As to the auxiliaries, the very first resolution they had adopted, and which they laid as the foundation of all their operations, was, that the Parent Society was not to be neglected, deserted, or in anywise injured, but that its general regulations were to be respected and complied with, both here and in Africa. It was their hope and their determination to bring this year into the treasury of the Society more, by far, than it had ever received before.

Mr. GURLEY disclaimed all allusion to any particular Society in the general remarks he had offered: He entirely approved of the plan of ex-

tending the agencies of the Society, and especially of the appointment of a general superintendency of the whole. He spoke again, with much feeling, of the importance of the present moment, and his ardent hope that such a course would be pursued as should conciliate the confidence and secure the support of the American people.

Dr. REESE agreed that the agencies heretofore appointed had been very inefficient, and he attributed it to the fact that the agents had been taken from individuals who had other occupations in the community, and who made the duties of their agency a subordinate matter, attended to only at intervals, when convenience might permit. He trusted the managers would act in the spirit of the resolutions, and take measures to have the true character and design of the Society fairly presented to the nation. This had never yet been done. No efforts of the press could effect it; nor would it ever be effectually accomplished but by the living agents of the Society, meeting and refuting calumny, correcting misapprehensions, and removing prejudice by fact and reason. When this was done, there would be no difficulty in obtaining funds to any amount that might be required.

Rev. Dr. LAURIE expressed his cordial approbation of the principle of employing suitable agents, but objected to the resolution as implying that the Board of Managers had not acted on that principle; and showed, by reference to their proceedings on the subject, that such implication was, in point of fact, erroneous. He noticed numerous instances in which the managers had endeavored to fill important agencies, and failed to do so, because the gentlemen to whom they were tendered declined accepting. He concluded his remarks by moving that the resolution be amended by expunging the word "establish," and substituting therefor the word "re-establish."

Mr. LOWRIE approved heartily of the plan proposed by the resolution, but vindicated the Board from any implied censure, as though it had been negligent on the subject of agencies. They had used their best exertions to obtain such as would be efficient, but had failed of success. Many of the agents did not collect enough to pay their own salaries. They had endeavored to obtain the services of Dr. Hewitt, Mr. Bacon, and Mr. Breckenridge; but those gentlemen had declined the appointment. If gentlemen would only show the Board how they are to accomplish the purpose of the resolution, he would support it with all his heart and soul. But the Board could not create agents.

Dr. REESE and Col. STONE disclaimed all reflection on the course of the Board, whom they highly commended for their exertions, especially of the past year, but insisted that, under the existing system of opposition and misrepresentation in relation to the objects and proceedings of the Society, it would be expedient to keep agents in the field, even should their collections be insufficient to cover their expenses. The great object to be effected was thoroughly to enlighten the public mind.

Mr. CRESSON stated some facts going to show the enormity of the falsehood which was employed in misrepresenting the purposes of the Society.

Mr. SEATON confirmed the statements of Mr. Lowrie as to the anxious efforts of the Board to obtain the services of distinguished, influential, and capable agents.

Colonel STONE accepted Dr. LAURIE's amendment, and conformed his resolution thereto. The resolution, thus modified, was adopted unanimously, and read as follows:

Resolved, That the crisis demands immediate and vigorous measures to extend the influence, and increase the funds of this institution; and that the Board of Managers be requested, at the earliest practicable period, to re-establish permanent agencies in every section of the country.

Dr. REESE offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That this meeting regard the late intelligence from Liberia, touching the medical department of the Colony, under the direction of Dr. Skinner, as of the highest importance to the interest of our great cause. The improvement in the health of the colonists, and the successful treatment of their prevailing diseases, encourage us to believe, that, under the blessing of Providence, we shall be preserved from the afflicting mortality which we have heretofore suffered at Monrovia.

On a call from the Rev. WILLIAM M. ATKINSON, from Virginia, Mr. GURLEY stated the general result of the information received from Dr. SKINNER, concerning the diseases of the Colony; and Colonel STONE mentioned some additional particulars on the same subject, which had been communicated to him.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

Some conversation took place, on the suggestion of Colonel STONE, as to the propriety of applying to Government for the employment of a naval force on the coast of Africa, to suppress the slave trade, which of late had greatly increased, owing to the destruction of slaves by the cholera in the island of Cuba. But it appeared that the Navy Department were already fully apprized of the state of things, and of the call for intervention. The application was, therefore, waived.

On motion of Dr. SEWALL, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That, in the opinion of this meeting, the establishment of Common Schools in the colony of Liberia is regarded of the highest importance.

On motion of Colonel ADDISON HALL, of Virginia, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That this Society is highly gratified to hear of the efficient efforts of the Ladies' Societies in Philadelphia and New York, to promote education among the native Africans in Liberia and its vicinity, and recommend their cause to the affection and support of all the friends of the colored race.

Rev. Mr. ATKINSON offered the following resolutions:

Resolved, That while this Society again disclaims, as it has always done, the design of interfering with the legal rights and obligations of slavery, it still is, as it always has been, animated in its exertions by the belief that its operations would be productive of unmixed good to the colored population of our country and of Africa.

Resolved, That the great and beneficent results which may be expected from the successful operation of this Society, ought to call forth the united efforts of the wise and good of every portion of our country to increase its influence and resources.

Mr. ATKINSON, in supporting his resolutions, observed that they would be found to contain a re-affirmance of the original principles of the Society—principles from which it had never departed. The only necessity of thus re-affirming them was to be found in the fact that the principles of the Society had been grossly misrepresented. He appealed to the chairman [General Mercer] on the subject of these misrepresentations, and the necessity, both in public and private, of meeting and refuting them.

As to the first resolution, he presumed there was not one person who doubted the position expressed in it; and strange indeed it would seem to him (if any thing could so appear to one whose experience had taught him not to wonder at any thing in human conduct or opinion,) that any rational being could believe that such men as had originated this institution could have been actuated by any other motive than a desire to promote the real good of the colored race. As to the beneficial effect of the Society's exertions in the condition of the colored population in Africa, the recent

increase of the slave trade on that coast went to show that nothing but colonization and a gradual exclusion of coast settlements could ever effectually put down that nefarious traffic. It was by the belief of this, and by the persuasion that nothing would more effectually or speedily conduce to the introduction upon that continent of the blessings of civilization and true Christianity, that the friends of the Society had been mainly induced to advocate its designs. It had been proposed to effect the good of the African race by giving them freedom *here*. But who that was acquainted with the condition of those called *free* among us, could suppose for a moment that they were free indeed? Look at their condition, as it was stamped not only by the laws, but by the universal state of feeling among our population. Would any reasonable and candid man call them free? It was impossible, in the nature of things, that any thing that deserved the name of freedom could be enjoyed by the colored man on any part of this continent. But let him be transported to a land where there were no white men, superior in numbers, in wealth, and refinement, lords of the soil, and dictators of the laws; there we might hope to see him a free man.

The last of the resolutions was the most important. Its subject was indeed delicate, but it was one which might be so presented as to give offence to none. It was not the intention of the society to interfere, in any way, with the legal rights of slavery; yet its operations were calculated in their own nature and consequences to exert a powerful influence upon it. This influence, however, could only be secured by avoiding all direct interference. Let this principle cease to be prominent both in the constitution of the Society, and the conduct of its affairs, and its whole influence on that subject was at once at an end. He would explain the manner in which the Society operated upon the continuance of slavery. To its removal, as all know, there were many and various obstacles; but one especially was, so long as it continued, absolutely irreparable. An emancipated slave, while remaining here, was in circumstances no more favorable than before his emancipation. Personal observation had taught him this: as it had taught the gentleman he was addressing. Every man acquainted with the South must admit that the condition not only of such slaves as had humane and indulgent masters, but that of all slaves, excepting those who were subject to very brutal and inhuman owners, (and these were comparatively rare,) were in a better situation than those who had been set free, but who continued to reside in a slave State. It was the settled policy not only of Virginia, but he believed of all the slave States, that a master desiring to emancipate his slaves was prohibited from doing so, unless he at the same time removed them from the bounds of the State. What then was to be done? Some, to be sure, would go to the North; but experience of the consequences of receiving such a population had induced some, and would soon induce others of the non-slaveholding States, to close this avenue. No asylum remaining in this country, how then were they to be emancipated? The existence of a foreign colony to receive them was indispensable.

The disposition to emancipate existed to a very great extent in the South. There are already 50,000 free colored persons in Virginia. Those who have embraced the notion that nothing was to be expected from this source, must have failed to look at facts before them. The laws of our State for forty years had permitted the emancipation of slaves. But for several years past, the Legislature have been so fully satisfied that the multiplication among us of free people of color was injurious to every class of our society, that (with a very few exceptions) they have required, in every instance of emancipation, the removal of the freeman from the Commonwealth. The number of persons who have been actually emancipated by our citizens, therefore, is much greater than might be inferred from the number of free people of color now resident among us.

Furthermore, the same convictions which have led the Legislature to impose this check upon manumission, have greatly influenced the minds of individual citizens. Hence, in order to give full scope to the principle of voluntary manumission, it is indispensable to provide an asylum to which humane and considerate masters, disposed to emancipate, could send their slaves, with a reasonable prospect of conferring on them a real benefit.

The value of slaves actually emancipated within the State of Virginia already amounted to *ten millions of dollars*. The present white population of that State amounted to 700,000; yet they and their forefathers had emancipated slaves to the value of ten millions, and this under a system of jurisprudence which throws guards and difficulties around the act of emancipation. Such a feeling, if left unfettered, must surely produce the greatest results. To those actuated by it, the Society, by providing a safe and accessible asylum, under mild laws and on a fertile soil, presented the happiest facilities for the indulgence of their humane purpose. But should the Society presume, for a moment, to touch the rights of these very individuals over the persons of their slaves, its influence would perish. It would at once be denied access to any slave-holding State. It was a subject on which those States would allow no intermeddling. The Chairman himself, whose sentiments and practice on the subject of slavery were well known, would be among the first to resent it.

As to the efforts of the little band of fanatics, to whom allusion had already been made, it was unnecessary for him to say any thing. Every member of the Society must be fully convinced that any attempt to touch the tenure of slaves would only end in the ruin of both the slave and the master. The second proposition expressed in the resolutions was a direct consequence of what preceded it. If the design of the Society was solely the best good of the African race, then, of course, every wise and good man ought to be ready to contribute heartily to its success.

Mr. ATKINSON's resolutions were adopted without a dissenting voice.

On motion of Mr. MASON, it was

Resolved, That a committee of four persons be appointed by the Chair to nominate the Managers of the Society for the present year.

The Chair appointed Mr. MASON, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Mr. SLADE, Mr. ATKINSON, and Mr. STONE, to constitute the committee.

The committee, after retiring for the purpose of consultation, returned, and reported the names of the following persons for the Board of Managers:

Rev. JAMES LAURIE, D.D.

Gen. WALTER JONES,

FRANCIS S. KEY,

Rev. WILLIAM HAWLEY,

JOHN UNDERWOOD,

WILLIAM W. SEATON,

WALTER LOWRIE,

Dr. PHINEAS BRADLEY,

Dr. THOMAS SEWALL,

Rev. RALPH R. GURLEY, *Secretary*.

JOSEPH GALES, Sen., *Treasurer*.

PHILIP R. FENDALL, *Recorder*.

Dr. REESE moved that the names of the Rev. WILLIAM RYLAND, JOHN P. INGLE, Rev. JOHN BRECKENRIDGE, and ELLIOTT CRESSON be submitted to the Society, together with the names reported by the committee, and that from the whole list, thus augmented, the Society should elect twelve managers.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN addressed the meeting in support of the nominations made by the committee.

After some discussion, in which Dr. REESE, Mr. STONE, Mr. LOWRIE, and Mr. ATKINSON took part, concerning the nominations, and some remarks from the Chair as to the parliamentary mode of proceeding in the case, it was agreed, first, to take the question separately and successively on the names reported by the committee. The question was so put, and each of the persons nominated by the committee was elected.

The following resolution was, on motion of Mr. SLADE, of Vermont, unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the single object of this Society, namely, the colonization of free people of color on the coast of Africa, is large enough to command the highest energies, and the warmest aspirations of Christian philanthropy; and that, in the prosecution of this object, we will, undaunted by opposition, and unmoved by reproach, steadfastly, and patiently, and perseveringly go forward, with a firm reliance on Divine Providence that "we shall, in due season, reap, if we faint not."

Mr. POLK, of Washington, D. C., moved the following resolution, which was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Society are due to the Board of Managers and the other officers, for the faithful discharge of their important duties during the past year.

Mr. STONE offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the reduction of expenses at the City of Washington be recommended to the early attention of the Board of Managers.

After an explanation by Dr. SEWALL of the course of the last Board of Managers on that subject, and some remarks by Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Dr. LAURIE, and Mr. MASON, the resolution was laid on the table.

Mr. CRESSON again suggested the subject for the consideration of the Board.

On motion of Mr. MASON, the Annual Report was accepted, and ordered to be printed under the direction of the Board.

Mr. GURLEY, the Secretary, adverted to a declaration made by him last year, of his intention to resign, but stated, in explanation, that his expectation at that time had been, that ere now the Society would have been relieved from debt. As that, unhappily, was not the case, and as he had been earnestly pressed by his friends to relinquish his previous determination, he had, after much reflection, consented to do so.

Mr. CRESSON suggested the expediency of the Society's holding its future annual meetings at an earlier day than that now prescribed by the constitution.

On motion of Mr. POLK, the fourth article of the constitution was amended by expunging the words "third Monday in January," and substituting in place thereof the words "the first Tuesday after the second Monday in December," as the time of the annual meeting.

The Secretary informed the Society that he had received a letter dated on the 13th inst. from the Rev. EBENEZER BURGESS, whose name is so distinguished in the annals of the institution, stating the reasons of his inability to attend the present meeting, avowing his "undiminished confidence" in the Society, and expressing his wish to remit, without delay, *four hundred dollars*, which he had ready, to pay the balance of his subscription on the plan of Gerritt Smith.

The Secretary also stated that he had received a letter from GERRITT SMITH, expressing the warm attachment of that gentleman to the Society, and remitting *one thousand dollars* to it; that being the second donation of the same amount which he had made to the Society since the last annual meeting.

The Society then adjourned to the next annual meeting.

A true copy from the minutes:

P. R. FENDALL, *Recorder*.

Officers and Managers for the ensuing year.

PRESIDENT.

JAMES MADISON, of Virginia.

VICE PRESIDENTS.

1. CHIEF JUSTICE MARSHALL.
2. HON. HENRY CLAY, of Kentucky.
3. HON. JOHN C. HERBERT, of Maryland.
4. ROBERT RALSTON, Esq. of Philadelphia.
5. GEN. JOHN MASON, of Georgetown, D. C.
6. SAMUEL BAYARD, Esq. of New Jersey.
7. ISAAC McKIM, Esq. of Maryland.
8. GEN. JOHN HARTWELL COCKE, of Virginia.
9. Rt. Rev. BISHOP WHITE, of Pennsylvania.
10. HON. DANIEL WEBSTER, of Boston.
11. HON. CHARLES F. MERCER, of Virginia.
12. JEREMIAH DAY, D. D. of Yale College.
13. HON. RICHARD RUSH, of Pennsylvania.
14. Rev. WM. McKENDREE, Senior Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States.
15. PHILIP E. THOMAS, Esq. of Maryland.
16. Dr. THOMAS C. JAMES, of Philadelphia.
17. HON. JOHN COTTON SMITH, of Connecticut.
18. HON. THEODORE FRELINGHUYSEN, of New Jersey.
19. HON. LOUIS McLANE, of Delaware.
20. GERRITT SMITH, Esq. of New York.
21. J. H. M'CLURE, Esq. of Kentucky.
22. GEN. ALEXANDER MACOMB, of Washington City.
23. MOSES ALLEN, Esq. of New York.
24. GEN. WALTER JONES, of Washington City.
25. FRANCIS S. KEY, Esq. of Georgetown, D. C.
26. SAMUEL H. SMITH, Esq. of Washington City.
27. JOSEPH GALES, Jr. Esq. of Washington City.
28. Rt. Rev. WM. MEADE, D. D., Assistant Bishop of Virginia.
29. HON. ALEXANDER PORTER, of Louisiana.
30. JOHN McDONOGH, Esq. of Louisiana.
31. HON. SAMUEL L. SOUTHARD, of New Jersey.
32. GEORGE WASHINGTON LAFAYETTE, of France.

MANAGERS.

1. Rev. JAMES LAURIE, D. D.
2. GEN. WALTER JONES.
3. FRANCIS S. KEY.
4. Rev. WILLIAM HAWLEY.
5. WILLIAM W. SEATON.
6. HON. WALTER LOWRIE.
7. PHINEAS BRADLEY, M. D.
8. THOMAS SEWALL, M. D.
9. MATTHEW ST. CLAIR CLARKE.
10. RALPH RANDOLPH GURLEY, *Secretary.*
11. JOSEPH GALES, Sen. *Treasurer.*
12. PHILIP R. FENDALL, *Recorder.*

REPORT.

At the last Annual Meeting of the Society, the subject of its most anxious deliberation was the heavy debt under which it was found to be laboring. This evil, great in itself, was aggravated by the despondency with which it oppressed many friends, and the consequent exultation of the enemies of the institution.

Immediately after the adjournment, the Managers advanced promptly to the discharge of the duty created by the resolution directing them "to lay before the public, through the African Repository, a full and detailed statement of the origin, rise, and present condition of the Society's debt, having particular reference to the causes and manner of its rise and increase, the times at which it has been increased, the individuals to whom it was originally and is now due, and for what, in every case, together with every circumstance within the reach of their inquiries here and in Africa, which can throw any light on this subject." Of the efforts of the Board to execute this resolution, the first fruits were their Special Report of February 20, 1834. Papers from the Colony, subsequently received, enabled them to prepare another exposition, in the form of their Special Report of July 24, 1834. These documents appeared without delay in the African Repository, and have been so long before the public, that no detailed reference on the present occasion to their contents is deemed necessary. They are believed to comprise all attainable information tending to elucidate the subject. The Board are happy to be able to state, as they now do, their conviction, derived from satisfactory proof, that the two reports just mentioned, though presenting an unreserved statement, without regard to consequences, of all the facts and circumstances concerning the debt which their utmost industry could obtain, have operated to a gratifying extent in confirming public confidence in the Society where it existed, and in recalling it in cases where it had been withdrawn. That the systematic opponents of the cause, who had made this debt a pretext for assailing it, have been persuaded by the published explanations to a more candid course, the Board do not pretend. Such a consequence, however desirable, was scarcely an object of rational hope. In connexion with the two Reports concerning the debt, the Managers invite the attention of the meeting to a tabular statement, published in the last number of the Repository, of emigrants sent to Africa since the commencement of the Society; from which statement it appears that the number sent during the years of 1831, '32, and '33, exceeded that sent during the whole preceding period of eleven years.

To discharge as soon as might be the debt of the Society, and to avert by suitable cautions the recurrence of such a burden, were felt by the Managers to be obvious and immediate duties. They are enabled to state that more than one-half of it has been paid; partly out of the ordinary revenue of the Society, and partly out of a proposed stock of \$50,000, bearing a yearly interest of six per centum, redeemable in twelve years by annual instalments, which the Board created for the payment of the debt. In their efforts to effect this object, they steadily

adhered to a determination, formed very soon after their organization, to lessen the expenses of the Society, and to refrain from sending out emigrants in any considerable number, until the debt should be paid, the affairs of the Colony be brought into a state of improved order, and plans of industry and agricultural pursuits be put in a state of successful progress, calculated to remove the causes of idleness or unprofitable employment that were believed to exist. Though that portion of the debt which has been paid out of the stock just mentioned still exists under another form, the commutation has, so far as it has been effected, relieved the Society from discredit, and provided an easy mode for the final extinguishment of its obligations.

Resolving to place the domestic expenses of the Society on the most economical establishment consistent with the suitable performance of its business, the Board abolished the office of Clerk: a gentleman appointed at the last Annual Meeting one of the Secretaries declining to accept the office, they have not filled the vacancy; and they have greatly diminished the previous cost of publishing the Annual Reports and the African Repository. The duties of Clerk, and those which the additional Secretary was expected to perform, have during the past year been discharged by the other executive officers.

In order to lessen the Colonial expenses of the Society, the mixed compensation of salary and sustenance, which certain officers at the Colony had before received, has been substituted by a fixed compensation wholly pecuniary; and sundry officers before paid by the Society have been referred to the Colony for compensation, should it require their future services.

The stock above mentioned was not created till the failure of the plan proposed at the last Annual Meeting for raising \$50,000 had been ascertained. The obligation to pay the subscriptions made under that plan being contingent on an event which did not happen, none of them have been recognised by the subscribers except that made by the gentleman who proposed the plan. He has since paid two annual instalments of his subscription of \$1,000 each; and a gentleman who subscribed after the adjournment has also paid two instalments. It should be mentioned that another distinguished friend of the Society, who had subscribed under the plan referred to, has since taken the amount of his subscription in the stock. Of this stock about \$10,500 have been issued to creditors of the Society, and others have promised to take about \$10,000 more. The Board have also received for stock upwards of \$2,000 in cash from the friends of the Society, and expect to dispose of several other thousands in the same way. The effect of what has been done and is in progress in relation to the debt, relieves the Board from any fear of serious injury to the cause from that source.

In addition to the efforts already referred to for discharging the debt, the Board resorted to the obvious expedient of soliciting contributions from the friends of the Society. In May last they addressed a circular to each of its auxiliary associations, invoking their aid and influence in freeing it from pecuniary difficulty, and indicating what seemed a practicable mode of accomplishing the object. With few exceptions, this appeal was unheeded. Better, though only partial success, attended the efforts of the Secretary of the Society, and of two Committees con-

sisting of distinguished members of the Board, who were at different periods deputed to ask aid from the friends of the Society in the northern cities. For the liberality manifested on these occasions by many individuals, it has cause for deep and permanent gratitude.

Through circumstances to be noticed presently, but little progress had, at the time of the last advices from the Colony, been made in the plans devised by the Board for improving its condition. In April last, despatches were received from the Rev. JOHN B. PINNEY, then temporary Colonial Agent, manifesting so much diligence and ability in the discharge of his functions, that the Board resolved to secure, if possible, his continued services; they accordingly appointed him permanent Agent for the Colony, though aware that his acceptance of the situation would require the consent of the Western Foreign Missionary Society, in whose service he had gone to Liberia. Application for such consent was accordingly made to that respected institution, and an answer received, declining, for assigned reasons, to yield the services of Mr. Pinney permanently to this institution, but permitting him to retain his relations to it for some time to come, and urging this Board to make other and permanent arrangements as soon as practicable. In anticipation of a response favorable to their wishes, the Managers had called Mr. Pinney's attention to the measures of Colonial improvement on which they had determined. He was instructed to assign to emigrants their land promptly on their arrival; to cause a number of lots of five acres each, more or less, in his discretion, to be laid off in the vicinity of each other; a comfortable cottage of native structure to be erected on each, sufficient for the residence of a small family; and a sufficient portion of each lot to be cleared and planted with the most useful vegetables. The cost of each homestead was limited to \$50, and the occupant was entitled to become its owner in fee simple, provided he should make a similar establishment in its vicinity. The Agent was also directed to provide a public farm, on which might be employed emigrants requiring work at any time. The Board are happy to learn by the last despatches from the Colony that the land for a public farm had been laid off; that the lots would be soon ready to receive ten families; and that in the opinion of one of the Colonial Physicians, in whose judgment the Board place much confidence, the most beneficial effects as to both the health and the general prosperity of the Colony might be expected from these arrangements. In promotion of both these objects, the Colonial Agent was also instructed to obtain a healthy territory for settlement in the high lands of the interior country, and to open a road thither from Liberia. In his general instructions he was urged to encourage the formation of Temperance Societies at the Colony, as the most effectual instruments for preventing the use of ardent spirits. This vital interest was shortly after made the subject of a special communication, in which were recapitulated the former efforts of the Society to promote temperance at Liberia, enjoining on him to exert the most emphatic moral influences in its behalf, and to communicate to the Board all procurable information bearing on the question of totally prohibiting the introduction of alcoholic liquors—on which they were deliberating. In justice to the colonists, it should be stated that the solicitude of the Managers on this subject is not prompted by a belief that intemperance is a prevailing vice at Liberia; but that, on the contrary,

after a candid examination of all the facts and evidence which careful inquiry has hitherto brought before them, they are of opinion that the Colony is less obnoxious to the charge than the same amount of population in an equal space of many parts of the United States. In illustration of this topic, it affords them pleasure to add that, in a letter recently received from one of the Colonial Physicians appointed since the last Annual Meeting, he states that not a drop of ardent spirits had been offered to him since his arrival, and that he had not seen any used by others. But the Managers strongly desire to eradicate from the infant community under their charge the germ of an evil so fruitful of misery and crime wherever it has existed. On the importance of the *end*, their own opinions, as too, they believe, were those of all their predecessors, are unanimous; but the selection of *means* presents a question of much embarrassment. Obvious considerations have hitherto recommended moral influences in preference to the doubtful experiment of coercion. The confidence of the Board in their success is greatly animated by the proposed establishment, through the contributions of philanthropic citizens of the State of New York, of a Temperance Settlement in the Colony, to be called Albany. The Board do not permit themselves to doubt the success of this interesting effort to found a community on the principle of temperance, nor the benign influence of its example on the neighboring society. Despatches from the Agent, under date of October 4, inform them that the Albany settlement would be soon ready for the reception of emigrants.

Mr. PINNEY's health, delicate when he left the United States, was so bad during the past summer as to withdraw his attention almost entirely from public affairs; and, consequently, to delay the execution of the plans of colonial improvement which the Board had communicated, or his own judgment had suggested to him. The result of them, when consummated, cannot fail to advance the prosperity of the Colony, and greatly to diminish the expenses of the Society in sustaining it.

In the *Jupiter*, which sailed from New York on the 21st of June last, Dr. EZEKIEL SKINNER, of Connecticut, and Dr. ROBERT McDOWALL, a colored Physician, from Scotland, went, under appointments by the Board, as Colonial Physicians. They were accompanied by CHARLES H. WEBB, one of the medical students under the care of this Board, whose purpose was to complete the study of his profession under the instruction of the Physicians at the Colony, and, afterwards, to engage there in its practice. Dr. Skinner and Dr. McDowall have been unremitting in their attention to the sick, and have received from Mr. Webb valuable assistance in the discharge of their duties. Dr. Todsén's official relations to the Colony were terminated by the Board in July last.

After the somewhat encouraging views which have been presented, in relation to the adjustment of the old debt of the Society, it would gratify the Board to be able to assure it that they have contracted no new obligations. But, though such is not the fact, they trust that, on due consideration of the circumstances in which they were placed, it will be admitted that they have done all in their power to accomplish the objects of their appointment, at the least possible sacrifice of the interests of the institution.

It will be observed, from the Treasurer's account current, appended to this Report, that the receipts at the treasury for the past year have

been considerably less than those of former years. And it is well known, that when Mr. Pinney reached the Colony, as temporary Agent, he found it in a very distressed state, wanting many of the necessaries of life. He was, therefore, obliged to purchase provisions wherever he could find them, and at any price, and to draw on this Board for payment. There were, also, many claims outstanding against the agency for supplies, salaries, &c., which he was called upon to pay. To satisfy these various and pressing demands, Mr. Pinney, soon after he entered the agency, drew on the Board to the large amount of \$11,000. As many of the drafts thus drawn were promptly paid as the state of the treasury would allow. In some instances, protests were suffered; in others, the members of the Board, in their individual capacities, borrowed money from the banks to pay the drafts, which loans have since been repaid by the Treasurer. In addition to the payment of several old claims, the purchase of supplies for the Colony, and the current expenses of the Society, about \$3,000 were paid in discharge of a portion of Mr. Pinney's drafts; a like amount was protested, and about \$5,000 are just become due.

On receiving, in April last, the despatches before referred to, from Mr. Pinney, it was found to be absolutely necessary to send out, with all convenient promptitude, a supply of trade goods and provisions, as it appeared that he had to pay exorbitant prices for every thing which he was constrained to purchase there. It was, therefore, determined to send by the Jupiter, which was about to carry out several teachers and other emigrants from New York, and in which it was resolved to obtain a passage for the additional medical officers engaged for the Colony, the supplies so much wanted. The Secretary of the Society accordingly proceeded immediately to New York, in order to obtain from the benevolent citizens of that place either money or goods to supply the wants of the Colony; and what could not be obtained gratuitously, to purchase on credit. The result was, that upwards of \$6,000 worth of goods were shipped in this vessel; of which amount the citizens of New York and Albany contributed about one-half; and for the other half drafts were given on this Board; and, also, for the freight of the goods and the passage of the three Physicians who went in the same vessel. All which drafts, except those given for the freight, (which are under protest,) and small amounts due on two others, have been duly paid.

The Board of Managers, having, early in the year, come to the conclusion that a Currency for transactions of small amount would be very convenient in the Colony, and prevent the necessity of a recourse to exchanges of different articles of merchandise, after due consideration, adopted the plan of issuing a sufficient quantity of small agency notes, with suitable devices, so that one denomination might be known from another even by persons who could not read, from five cents to a dollar. A quantity of these notes was accordingly prepared and filled up, requiring the signature of the Agent only, to make them ready for circulation.

With this currency, and a cask of cents for smaller change, the Treasurer sent particular instructions to the Colonial Agent, as to the manner of keeping the accounts of the Colony in future, so that the Society might know the expense attending the different departments of the Colonial Government, as well as the profits arising from the store, and the traffic carried on by the schooner of the Colony with the natives; and that there

might exist something like a system of accountableness between the Colonial Agent and the Parent Board.

It appears, by one of Mr. Pinney's late letters, that he had not, at the date of it, received the currency notes. Supposing them to be lost, he desired a fresh supply. But, it is presumed, that, as the goods sent by the *Jupiter* were, on their arrival, stored in a warehouse of the Vice Agent, the box containing these notes was put away with the rest of the goods, and that it will be found when the warehouse is examined.

By the last arrival, an account current, forwarded by the Colonial Secretary, was received; but, from the absence of vouchers, and other deficiencies, is not so satisfactory as it is hoped that future documents of the kind will be.

From what has already been said of the financial condition of the Society and the wants of the Colony, when the present Board of Managers entered on their duties, it may be supposed that they have been unable to fit out any expeditions. To engage in new enterprises, while the unpaid debt incurred for the old continued a theme of hostile criticism, and to add to the numbers of the colonists while the situation of those already settled needed material improvement and immediate aid, seemed to the Managers a course which, whatever might be its temporary eclat, could present no solid advantage, but would fearfully augment the burdens of their already oppressed treasury. In reaching this conclusion, they did not fail to consider the unfavorable tendencies of a remission of colonizing enterprise; but they relied on the public candor to estimate the difficulties of their position, which determined them to regard the sending of emigrants as a secondary consideration, except under special circumstances, until the debt should be paid. With the views of duty just indicated, they have, since the last Annual Meeting, sent directly but fourteen emigrants to the Colony. These were manumitted slaves belonging to the estate of the late Matthew Page, of Frederick county, Virginia, and sailed in the ship *Ninus*, from Norfolk, on the 26th of October last, to join others heretofore sent to Liberia by the benevolent widow of that gentleman. They went in company with the manumitted slaves of the late Dr. Hawes, of the same State; and, through the liberality of the Young Men's Society of Pennsylvania, which fitted out the expedition, received a free passage. A charge of \$280 was thus saved to the Society.

Another case, which seemed an exception from the rule which the Managers had prescribed to themselves, was that of between thirty and forty slaves liberated for the purpose of colonization by the last will and testament of the late Rev. John Stockdell, of Virginia. Their contested claim to freedom having been decided in their favor, the Board determined, under the peculiar circumstances of their case, to make an effort for promptly conveying them to the Colony. The preliminary measures adopted, in view of this object, were arrested by information that an appeal had been taken from the decision in favor of the slaves. Should that decision be affirmed, as it is expected to be, by the appellate court, the next Board of Managers will, of course, resume the efforts of the present Board to carry into effect the wishes of the benevolent testator.

A correspondence has recently taken place, between the Navy Department and the Board, in relation to sixty-two recaptured Africans, who had been placed at the disposition of the Federal Government by the

judgment of one of its courts. This correspondence resulted in the acceptance by the Department of terms on which the Board offered to restore those unfortunate persons to their native land. This purpose will, it is expected, be effected in a few weeks.

It is a source of high gratification to the Managers, that, though their immediate concern in the business of emigration has been inconsiderable during the past year, Auxiliary Societies, other friends, and similar institutions, have not permitted it to languish. They before mentioned the proposed establishment of a Temperance Settlement within the Liberian Territory, and the expedition sent out by the Young Men's Society of Philadelphia. The former enterprise, originated among the citizens of Albany, in the State of New York, who determined to raise \$3,000 for the purpose of settling at a village, to be called Albany, in Liberia, one hundred temperance emigrants. Of this sum \$1,093 29 were, during the last summer, collected and forwarded to this Board, and \$374 have lately been remitted to it, for the same object. The Colonial Agent was promptly instructed to select a suitable location for this settlement, and to make preparatory arrangements for the settlers, on the principles of the new plan, for the accommodation of emigrants, which was noticed in a former part of this report. The progress made, in regard to this settlement, has already been adverted to. The emigrants, sent out by the Young Men's Society of Pennsylvania, were one hundred and ten slaves, manumitted by the last will and testament of the late Dr. Aylett Hawes, of Rappahannock county, in the State of Virginia, on the condition of being sent by the American Colonization Society to Liberia; and with a bequest of \$20 to each of them in aid of their transportation and settlement. The financial exigencies of the Parent Institution preventing it from immediate direct action on this subject, the Managers accepted the offer of the Young Men's Society of Pennsylvania to send the manumitted slaves of Dr. Hawes to Bassa Cove, to be there formed into a distinct, but dependent settlement. The Kentucky State Colonization Society proposes to send out, at its own charge, during the present month, about fifty emigrants to the Colony, to be selected with due regard to their moral qualifications, and to be well provided by that institution with every thing necessary for their comfort. The consent of this Board to that enterprise, and to the appropriation to its purpose of a legacy of \$500 left by a lady of Kentucky, has been requested and accorded.

In the last Annual Report was noticed the independent Colony established at Cape Palmas by the Maryland State Society. A recent communication from that Society to this Board exhibits a gratifying view of the progress of their enterprise. In June last, they sent a vessel with supplies; and in December, another with supplies and emigrants. Advices received by the return of the former vessel presented the condition of the settlers in the most favorable light, in regard to both their physical comfort and their prospect of moral elevation.

Since the last Annual Meeting, the following Auxiliary Societies have been formed:

The Young Men's Colonization Society of Frederick county, Va., auxiliary to the Virginia State Society.

A Colonization Society at Methuen, Massachusetts.

A Colonization Society of the students of Washington College, Pennsylvania.

A Colonization Society of Auburn Theological Seminary, New York.

The Young Men's Colonization Society of Pennsylvania.

The Colonization Society of Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, at Carlisle.

The Colonization Society of Lane Seminary, Ohio.

The Colonization Society of Kinderhook Academy, New York.

The Young Men's Colonization Society of Geneva, N. Y., auxiliary to the New York State Colonization Society.

The Young Men's Colonization Society of Muskingum county, Ohio, formed at Zanesville, December 24, 1834.

The Tioga county (N. Y.) Colonization Society of the eastern jury district of said county.

The North Carolina State Society has been re-organized.

Fewer permanent Agents of the Society have been employed in the past, than in the next preceding year. Shortly after the last Annual Meeting, the Board appointed Robert S. Finley, Esq., permanent agent for the western district, comprising the States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Missouri, and the Territory of Michigan. In that region, Mr. Finley has exhibited his characteristic zeal and ability; and, though his efforts to raise funds for the Society have not prospered, he has done much in wakening public attention to the cause, in stimulating its friends to exertions, and in repelling hostilities. The Managers regret to add, that private considerations have determined that efficient officer to retire from his agency in the course of a few weeks. A part of his field is at present occupied by the Reverend Cornelius Moore, a gentleman highly recommended to the Board, and recently appointed Agent of the Society for the State of Ohio. A similar appointment for the State of Virginia has been conferred on Colonel Addison Hall, formerly of Lancaster county, in that State. He will shortly remove to Richmond, in order the more effectually to promote the interests of the Society; and the Managers feel great confidence in the result of his efforts. A prominent friend of the Society was appointed Agent for the New England States, and another for the middle district, comprising the States of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia. Both these gentlemen declined to accept, and the Board have not deemed it advisable hitherto to fill the vacancies. Mr. Sylvester Woodbridge is engaged in the service of the Society in Connecticut and the western part of the State of New York. The Rev. William Matchett has, for some months, been acting as agent of the Society in Delaware and Maryland.

The circumstances under which Mr. Pinney was appointed Colonial Agent have been mentioned in a former part of this Report. His administration, until disease incapacitated him for exertion, was so vigorous, provident and discreet, that the Board feel pain in announcing to this meeting that the Society is no longer to have the benefit of his valuable services, as he proposes to devote himself to his missionary labors so soon as a new Colonial Agent can be appointed.

The cause of African missions has suffered severely by the decease of the Rev. Mr. Laird and wife, and the Rev. Mr. Cloud, of the Presbyterian Church, and the Rev. Mr. Wright and wife, of the Methodist Episcopal Church; individuals who, by their talents, zeal, and piety, were well qualified for extensive usefulness in that great and holy work, to which their lives were cheerfully devoted. Cut down in the commencement of their labors, they could do little more than exhibit, under the most trying circumstances, the noble Christian spirit which animated them, and bequeath an example of influence to revive something of the primitive spirit of our religion in the bosom of the Church.

Despatches received from the Colony, by the Ruth and Sarah Priscilla, bring intelligence from it as late as the middle of October. At the date of these despatches, Mr. Pinney had so far recovered his health, as to enable him to resume partially his official functions, and thus to terminate some dissatisfaction which had been created by circumstances connected with his temporary retirement. Besides plans of improvement in the Colony of a more general nature, the execution of which had been suspended by his unfortunate illness, the completion of the new substantial colonial store and saw-mill, which had been early commenced by him, was delayed.

Though there had been a number of deaths among the emigrants who went out in the *Argus* last winter, but few instances of mortality had since occurred. Among these, were the deaths of two individuals of much consideration in the Colony: the Rev. Colston M. Waring, who emigrated from Virginia in the year 1823, Pastor of the First Baptist Church, a member of the Colonial Council, and who had twice filled the office of Vice-Agent; and the Rev. Gustavus V. Cesar, an emigrant from Hartford, in Connecticut, a minister of the Episcopal Church, and surveyor of the Colony.

Dr. Skinner's treatment of the diseases of the Colony has thus far been successful. He considers Millsburg as the most healthy of the colonial settlements; and states that there are mountains in its vicinity which would furnish an eligible site for a medical or high school. As a proof of its salubrity, he mentions that there are living there in good health two families, each consisting of nine persons, who were among the first settlers; and that they all passed through the fever without physician or medicine. Dr. Skinner is of opinion that every part of Liberia may be rendered more healthy than at present, and that nothing is wanting but industry and perseverance to overcome the obstacles which now obstruct its prosperity. In promoting religion and morality among the colonists, and in stimulating them to active usefulness, this officer has been an efficient co-operator with the Agent. The Board are gratified to learn from him that he found the state of society in the Colony moral and orderly in a very high degree.

By the last despatches, many important subjects were brought to the notice of the Board. Among the results of their counsels was a determination to send out to Liberia, by the first opportunity, a few bales of cotton, and wheels, cards, and looms, for manufacturing purposes, with the view to enable hands, hitherto unemployed, to make necessary articles of clothing for the use of the colonists; and to instruct the Agent to obtain from the Bassa country, the Cape de Verd islands, or other places, as many steers, mules, and asses as may be wanted for agricultural pursuits and the transportation of burdens.

The Board regret to learn that the Colonial Council have passed an ordinance suspending the public schools, until some better plan for conducting them can be devised. The Agent will be instructed to promote this object by all means within his power. Among the wants of the Colony, which the Managers have been most solicitous to supply, is its need of an improved system of jurisprudence. The Colonial Code, which they had taken means to have prepared, is not yet completed.

At the last Annual Meeting two resolutions were adopted; the first containing ten specifications concerning colonial statistics, about which

the Society directed the Managers to obtain and embody in the present Report the fullest and most accurate information; and the second directing them to embody in all future Reports details still more minute on the same topics. The earliest opportunity was used to call the particular attention of the Agent to these resolutions; but the Managers regret to say, that, in consequence of his ill health and the pressure of his current engagements, he has been unable hitherto to furnish them with the means of communicating to the present meeting the desired information. In order that no avoidable delay may occur in giving the members of the Society all the light that can be obtained on this subject, it is the purpose of the Board to publish in the African Repository the Agent's report on the resolutions so soon as it shall be received.

The Society, at the last Annual Meeting, referred to the Board a resolution appointing three gentlemen as Commissioners to proceed to Liberia and its vicinity, and to submit to the present Annual Meeting the result of their inquiry. This reference was an early subject of deliberation with the Board; but the object for which the commission was suggested having been otherwise attained to a considerable extent, they determined not to institute it. They are happy to believe that no injury has resulted from this course, as full reports in relation to the Colony, of the accuracy of which they entertain no doubt, have been received since the last Annual Meeting. Among these may be specified a letter from Captain Voorhees, of the United States Navy, under date of December 14, 1834, which was published in the African Repository for March last.

Another subject referred to the Board at the last Annual Meeting was that of making arrangements with Mr. Gurley to secure, as soon as practicable, the publication of his Biography of the late Mr. Ashmun. That purpose has been effected without the agency of the Board, but on terms which secure to the Society a contingent interest in the work. It is expected shortly to issue from the press.

The Managers cannot close their Report without noticing the dispensation of Providence which has deprived the Society, during the past year, of its three distinguished friends, General Lafayette, William H. Crawford, and Thomas S. Grimke. Of these, the two first named were among its Vice-Presidents; and the third, though declining to accept a similar station, which had been tendered to him, was a constant and zealous supporter of the cause. The public interest felt in them all would render any particular allusion on this occasion to their characters a superfluous tribute to their memories. But the Managers of an institution, with which the names of those eminent persons are identified, may be allowed to mingle with the more conspicuous manifestations of sorrow which their deaths have called forth, an expression of their own deep, though unavailing regret.

In surrendering to the Society the trust with which they have been honored, the Managers are happy to say that nothing has occurred during the period of their administration to shake their confidence in the great cause of Colonization, nor their hope that the same protection which it has received so signally from Heaven in times past will be continued throughout its future course.

JAMES LAURIE,
President of the Board of Managers.

R. R. GURLEY, *Secretary.*

Dr.

Joseph Gales, Treasurer, in account with the American Colonization Society.

Cr.

1834, Jan. 22.		1834.	
To cash received from late Treasurer, - - -	\$140 00	By cash paid and stock issued in discharge of debts out-	
To cash received from Auxiliary Societies, - - -	5,226 87	standing at the last Annual Meeting, viz: cash \$7,126 84,	
To cash received by donations, - - -	6,573 79	stock \$10,411 70, - - -	\$17,538 54
To cash received from collections in churches, - - -	3,379 67	By cash for supplies to the Colony, and on account of	
To cash received from subscribers to Gerritt Smith's first		salaries in do. - - -	9,130 44
plan, - - -	2,440 00	By cash for the outfit and passage of Drs. Skinner and	
To cash received from his second plan, - - -	2,040 00	McDowall, - - -	459 25
To cash received from life subscribers, - - -	160 00	By cash for maintaining, clothing, and educating medical	
To cash received from sale of stock, - - -	12,511 70	students, - - -	1,111 76
To cash received from Mississippi Presbytery, - - -	150 00	By cash for rent, stationery, fuel, postage, expenses of tra-	
To cash received from the Albany Temperance Plan, - - -	1,467 29	velling of members of the Board, and other contingencies, - - -	1,122 10
To cash received from the N. Y. Female Education Society, - - -	800 00	By cash for printing, - - -	852 00
To cash received, balance of collections from Rev. J. N.		By cash for transportation of emigrants, - - -	280 00
Danforth, - - -	140 00	By cash for goods purchased for the Albany Temperance	
To cash received from collections by F. W. Thomas, - - -	236 00	Society, - - -	500 00
To cash received from Mass'tts African Education Society, - - -	5 68	By cash for stores and passage of Messrs. Finley and Searl,	
To cash received from Jas. Keith, Alexandria, for convey-		teachers of the New York Female Education Society, - - -	306 28
ing colored people to Africa, - - -	225 00	By cash on account of salaries at home, - - -	3,466 00
To cash received from Jonathan Beecroft, for the use of		By cash to F. W. Thomas, agent, for his services, - - -	236 00
his former servant in Liberia, - - -	50 00	By cash to W. M. Matchett, agent, on account, - - -	10 00
To cash received for sale of old fire grates, - - -	10 10	By cash to Geo. Wood, N. York, for this Society's portion	
		of a fee on account of a legacy bequeathed in Vermont, - - -	84 45
	\$35,556 10	By cash for discount, interest, &c. - - -	106 31
		Balance, - - -	352 97
1835, Jan. 16.			
To balance brought down, - - -	\$352 97		\$35,556 10

The undersigned, a Committee appointed to audit the Treasurer's accounts from January 22, 1834, to January 15, 1835, have performed the duty assigned to them; and, having compared the entries with the vouchers, find the record correctly kept.

JAMES LAURIE,
Z. BRADLEY.

JANUARY 15, 1835.

Resolutions of the Board of Managers of the Colonization Society.

JANUARY 12, 1835.

1. *Resolved*, That the Board highly approve of the removal of unemployed women and children, and others, living at the expense of the agency at Monrovia, to Caldwell, to be employed either on the public farm, in manufacturing cotton, or in some other way to earn their own maintenance.

2. *Resolved*, That nothing further is necessary, on the part of this Board, to prevent the introduction into the Colony of aged and unprotected women and children, than that strict attention be given to the subject whenever vessels are sent out with emigrants to Liberia.

3. *Resolved*, That the propriety of converting one or more of the receptacles at the Colony into a workshop or workshops, in which to employ such women, children and others, as may be engaged in manufacturing cotton or other articles, be left to the discretion of the Colonial Agent.

4. *Resolved*, That no further regulations are necessary, in addition to those passed by the Board in January last, in relation to emigrants settling, on their first arrival, on the lots to be permanently laid out for them.

5. *Resolved*, That it being, in the opinion of the Board, all-important to the future welfare of the Colony that good schools should be kept up in the several settlements, any school-house, owned by the Society in the Colony, shall be used gratuitously by the teacher of any public school; and in settlements where the Society has no school-house, the Board agree to pay the rent of a suitable house for the purpose, on condition that a public school be kept therein, until more efficient provision in the premises can be made.

6. *Resolved*, That, in order to furnish employment to women and children, and others unable to labor on a farm, the Board will comply with the request made by the Colonial Agent, to send out to the Colony, by the first opportunity, wheels, cards and looms, for the purpose of manufacturing cotton; and until the inhabitants are placed in a situation and furnished with the proper means for raising sufficient cotton in the Colony, that a few bales of cotton be sent from hence, with the implements above mentioned; and from time to time, as it may be wanted. By these means, it is presumed, that a large quantity of necessary articles of clothing may be made for the use of the colonists by hands which have hitherto been unemployed.

7. *Resolved*, That a quantity of bootees be sent to the Colony for the purpose of preventing injuries to the ankles, which frequently produce ulcers, especially in persons recently afflicted with the fever of the climate.

8. *Resolved*, That the Colony has been too long without working animals to aid its settlers in agricultural pursuits, and in carrying burdens from place to place, and that, therefore, the Colonial Agent be instructed to take an early opportunity of obtaining, from the Bassa Country, or some other place, as many steers as may be wanted for these purposes; and also such number of mules or asses as may be needed from the Cape de Verd islands, or other parts.

9. *Resolved*, That the schooner Margaret Mercer being now useless for want of repairs, the Agent be instructed either to cause her to be repaired at the Colony, or to send her to the United States for that purpose, accordingly as he may think best, unless he should think it more expedient to hire her out or to sell her, as heretofore authorized to do.

10. *Resolved*, That the existing circumstances of the Colony, and the narrow finances of the Board, do not justify the purchase, at this time, of a steamboat for the Colony.

JANUARY 26.

Resolved, That Mr. Pinney having expressed a wish to retire from the Colonial Agency, Dr. Ezekiel Skinner be appointed Colonial Agent; and that he be apprised that the Board will relieve him from the duties of that station, and enable him again to devote his exclusive attention to his professional duties, so soon as they can procure the services of a suitable successor in the Agency.

FEBRUARY 7.

Resolved, That the Colonial Agent be at liberty to take up his residence at such place or places within the Colony of Liberia as he may prefer for its or their advantages in respect to health and other circumstances; that he rent a house for his temporary accommodation, in any such place, until he become satisfied with a site for his permanent abode; and provided such location be not at Monrovia, this Society will cause a suitable house to be erected there for his residence, and provide in other respects for his comfortable establishment.

AFRICAN COLONIZATION.

It has been already stated, that a vessel will shortly sail to Liberia from New Orleans, with sixty-two recaptured Africans, at present in charge of the Marshal of the district of Louisiana; and that the Auxiliary Colonization Society of Kentucky, having resolved to send out to Africa from the same port about fifty emigrants from that State, the Board of Managers of the Parent Society had authorized their agent for the western section of the United States, Mr. R. S. FINLEY, to pay a visit to New Orleans, in order to charter a vessel, provide the necessary stores for the voyage, and to attend to their embarkation. On his way Mr. F. was directed to spend a short time, in the State of Mississippi, to give information to certain free colored persons there, who had expressed a desire to emigrate to Liberia, of the present opportunity. The Board has just received from Mr. F. a very interesting account of the success which has attended his visit to Mississippi. He states "that there will be upwards of seventy emigrants from that State; that, through the unexampled liberality of the friends of the cause, with little or no effort on his part, a sufficient sum of money has been raised to defray the expense of the expedition; that twenty-six of the emigrants belonging to the estate of James Green, deceased, late of Adams county, were selected from one hundred and thirty, and emancipated for faithful and meritorious services. The acting executor of the estate will accompany these people to New Orleans, to purchase for them an outfit of clothing, furniture, implements of husbandry, mechanics' tools, &c. to the value of *a thousand dollars*, to pay the expense of their passage, and to advance *five thousand dollars* for their use in the Colony. Forty-three of the emigrants are from Claiborne county, are people of excellent character, and will carry with them *ten thousand dollars* worth of property. Among these emigrants are GLOSTER SIMPSON and ARCHY MOORE, who visited the Colony more than two years ago, on behalf of the free colored people of Mississippi, as *exploring agents*. When the Ajax sailed for Liberia, in the spring of 1833, they were not ready to return, their families being still in bondage; but they have been waiting, for a year past, with great anxiety to return. On paying them a visit, and informing them of the opportunity for their immediate departure, they received the intelligence with *rapturous joy*." Mr. F. adds, "that he shall sail in the next steamboat, and expects to meet the Kentucky emigrants at New Orleans, as they were to leave Louisville on the 16th of January." Mr. Finley's letter is dated February 2d.

GENERAL INDEX

TO

THE ANNUAL REPORTS,

AND PROCEEDINGS AT THE ANNUAL MEETINGS,

OF THE

AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY,

FROM THE FIRST TO THE EIGHTEENTH, BOTH INCLUSIVE.

[N. B. The Roman numerals refer to the report; the figures to the page. MEM. From the *twelfth* to the *seventeenth* annual report, both inclusive, the proceedings at the annual meetings and the reports are paged *separately*.]

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